

MAR 28 2007

Art Unit 2151
Serial No.: 09/918,666

Reply to Office Action of: 01/05/2007
Attorney Docket No.: K35A0872

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for his careful and thoughtful examination of the present application. By way of summary, Claims 1-9, 11, 22-30, 32, 43-51 and 53 were pending in this application. In the present amendment, the Applicants have amended the specification and submitted a terminal disclaimer. Accordingly, Claims 1-9, 11, 22-30, 32, 43-51 and 53 remain pending for consideration.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The Examiner requested that the first paragraph of the specification be updated to include the serial number of the co-pending application. Applicants have updated this cross-reference paragraph, as shown above.

DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION

The Examiner further rejected the pending claims on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1, 2, 14, 41 and 49-51 of U.S. Patent No. 6,892,217, issued to Hanmann *et al.* While the Applicants may not agree with the foregoing rejection, in order to progress the prosecution of the present application, Applicants have attached an appropriate Terminal Disclaimer. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the double patenting rejection of the claims.

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CONCLUSION

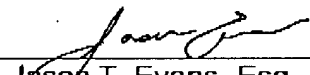
In view of the foregoing amendments, remarks and attached Terminal Disclaimer, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance and request reconsideration of the rejections. If it is believed that a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of the present application, or clarify matters with regard to its allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any required fees associated with this Communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1209.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 28, 2007

By: _____


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